

**UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL
(Large Entity)**

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

Docket No.
MP/177

Total Pages in this Submission

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Box Patent Application
Washington, D.C. 20231

Transmitted herewith for filing under 35 U.S.C. 111(a) and 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) is a new utility patent application for an invention entitled:

CIRCULAR STAPLER BUTTRESS

and invented by:

ANN M. BAUMAN
STUART E. BROYLES
JERRY M. CRAWLEY
JOHN R. DAUGHERTY
NORMAN PIH

22141 U.S. PTO
10/666204
09/17/03

If a CONTINUATION APPLICATION, check appropriate box and supply the requisite information:

Continuation Divisional Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: _____

Which is a:

Continuation Divisional Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: _____

Which is a:

Continuation Divisional Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: _____

Enclosed are:

Application Elements

1. Filing fee as calculated and transmitted as described below

2. Specification having 19 pages and including the following:
 - a. Descriptive Title of the Invention
 - b. Cross References to Related Applications (*if applicable*)
 - c. Statement Regarding Federally-sponsored Research/Development (*if applicable*)
 - d. Reference to Sequence Listing, a Table, or a Computer Program Listing Appendix
 - e. Background of the Invention
 - f. Brief Summary of the Invention
 - g. Brief Description of the Drawings (*if filed*)
 - h. Detailed Description
 - i. Claim(s) as Classified Below
 - j. Abstract of the Disclosure

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Application Elements (Continued)

3. Drawing(s) (when necessary as prescribed by 35 USC 113)
 - a. Formal Number of Sheets _____
 - b. Informal Number of Sheets 9
4. Oath or Declaration
 - a. Newly executed (*original or copy*) Unexecuted
 - b. Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) (*for continuation/divisional application only*)
 - c. With Power of Attorney Without Power of Attorney
 - d. **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 C.F.R. 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
5. Incorporation By Reference (*usable if Box 4b is checked*)
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.
6. CD ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)
7. Application Data Sheet (See 37 CFR 1.76)
8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (*if applicable, all must be included*)
 - a. Computer Readable Form (CRF)
 - b. Specification Sequence Listing on:
 - i. CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
 - ii. Paper
 - c. Statement(s) Verifying Identical Paper and Computer Readable Copy

Accompanying Application Parts

9. Assignment Papers (*cover sheet & document(s)*)
10. 37 CFR 3.73(B) Statement (*when there is an assignee*)
11. English Translation Document (*if applicable*)
12. Information Disclosure Statement/PTO-1449 Copies of IDS Citations
13. Preliminary Amendment
14. Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (*Should be specifically itemized*)
15. Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (*if foreign priority is claimed*)
16. Certificate of Mailing
 First Class Express Mail (*Specify Label No.:* EL553365165US)

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Accompanying Application Parts (Continued)

17. Additional Enclosures (*please identify below*):

Request That Application Not Be Published Pursuant To 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)

18. Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2), Applicant hereby requests that this patent application not be published pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(1). Applicant hereby certifies that the invention disclosed in this application has not and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications 18 months after filing of the application.

Warning

An applicant who makes a request not to publish, but who subsequently files in a foreign country or under a multilateral international agreement specified in 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i), must notify the Director of such filing not later than 45 days after the date of the filing of such foreign or international application. A failure of the applicant to provide such notice within the prescribed period shall result in the application being regarded as abandoned, unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the Director that the delay in submitting the notice was unintentional.

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Fee Calculation and Transmittal

CLAIMS AS FILED

For	#Filed	#Allowed	#Extra	Rate	Fee
Total Claims	71	- 20 =	51	x \$18.00	\$918.00
Indep. Claims	5	- 3 =	2	x \$84.00	\$168.00
Multipl Dependent Claims (check if applicable)					\$0.00
				BASIC FEE	\$750.00
OTHER FEE (specify purpose)					\$0.00
				TOTAL FILING FEE	\$1,836.00

- A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 07-1729 as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- Charge the amount of \$1,836.00 as filing fee.
 - Credit any overpayment.
 - Charge any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17.
 - Charge the issue fee set in 37 C.F.R. 1.18 at the mailing of the Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.311(b).

Eric J. Sheets
Signature

Dated: 17 Sept. 2003

Eric J. Sheets Reg. No. 30,326
W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc.
551 Paper Mill Road
P.O. Box 9206
Newark, DE 19714-9206

cc:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : BAUMAN et al.
Appl. No. : Not Yet Assigned
Filed : Simultaneously Herewith
Title : Circular Stapler Buttress

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to: Box Patent Application, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on September 17, 2003, with an Express Mail Label, bearing the number EL553365165US


Melanee Williams

MS PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Dear Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified Patent Application:

1. Utility Patent Application Transmittal (4 pages)
2. Specification and Abstract (19 pages, 71 claims)
3. Informal Drawings (9 sheets)

The Commissioner is hereby authorized and is requested to charge all filing fees due under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and all other fees due under § 1.17 during the pendency of this application to our Deposit Account No. 07-1729.

Please accord this application a serial number and filing date.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric J. Sheets
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Date: 17 Sept 2003